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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Varela DATE TYPED: 2/21/03 HB 877

SHORT TITLE: Accurate River Water Flow Devices SB _____

ANALYST: Chabot

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$100.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 832

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 877 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to OSE for the purpose of purchasing, installing, and studying prototypes of alternative devices that accurately measure the flow of river water on a real-time basis. OSE will consult with Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories in this effort.

Significant Issues

OSE states these measuring devices will provide real-time measurement of river flows.

NMED states additional accurate and plentiful stream flow data would be beneficial to water quality planning efforts. The agency recommends adding the United States Geological Survey (USGS) as consulting organization.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

NMED recommends on line 24 inserting a comma after “laboratory”, striking “and” and adding after “laboratories” “and the United States geological survey.”

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Are there possibilities in obtaining federal matching funds for this effort?

GAC/lis